

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-144 (canceled)

145. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of at least 6 amino acids but no more than 150 amino acids of the conserved regulatory domain of Nuclear Factor of Activated T-cell (NFAT) protein, wherein said at least six amino acids consists of SEQ ID NO:77, wherein X_1 is S or R, X_2 is E, R, or Q, and ~~wherein~~ X_3 is I or F; and wherein said polypeptide inhibits protein-protein interaction between calcineurin and NFAT.

146. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said sequence of at least six amino acids is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, and SEQ ID NO:71.

147. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises a sequence of at least 6 amino acid residues and less than 100 amino acid residues of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein.

148. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises a sequence of at least 6 amino acid residues and less than 50 amino acid residues of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein.

149. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises a sequence of at least 6 amino acid residues and less than 30 amino acid residues of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein.

150. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises a sequence of at least 6 amino acid residues and less than 20 amino acid residues of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein.

151. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises a sequence of at least 6 amino acid residues and less than 10 amino acid residues of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein.

152. (Currently Amended) ~~The polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said polypeptide comprises~~
An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of 6 amino acid residues, and only 6 amino acid residues, of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein, wherein said 6 amino acids consists of any one of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, and SEQ ID NO:71, and wherein said polypeptide inhibits protein-protein interaction between calcineurin and NFAT.

153. (Canceled)

154. (Original) An isolated polypeptide consisting of any one of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, and SEQ ID NO:71.

155. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of claim 154, wherein said polypeptide inhibits protein-protein interaction between calcineurin and NFAT.

156. (Original) A fusion protein comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 154 fused to at least one protein, wherein said at least one protein is other than an NFAT protein.

157. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156, wherein said at least one protein comprises a maltose binding protein.

158. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156, wherein said at least one protein comprises a glutathione S-transferase (GST) protein.

159. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156 wherein said at least one protein comprises a green fluorescent protein, or a variant thereof.

160. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156 wherein said at least one protein comprises a peptide tag.

161. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156 wherein said at least one protein comprises thioredoxin.

162. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156, wherein said at least one protein is fused to said isolated polypeptide at the N-terminus of said isolated polypeptide.

163. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 156, wherein said at least one protein is fused to said isolated polypeptide at the C-terminus of said isolated polypeptide.

164. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 162, further comprising a protein other than an NFAT protein fused to said isolated polypeptide at the C-terminus of said isolated polypeptide.

165. (Previously Presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 145, wherein said at least six amino acids consists of SEQ ID NO:5.